



UNITED STATES MINT NEWS & VIEWS

HENRIETTA HOLSMAN FORE, DIRECTOR

JUNE 2005

OREGON'S "CRATER LAKE" ADDED TO 50 STATE QUARTERS® COLLECTIONS



The United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters® Program continues its seventh year on June 6th with the release of the Oregon

commemorative quarter dollar coin. It is the 33rd quarter in the United States Mint's series that honors all 50 States in the order in which they were admitted into the Union.

On June 15, 2005, United States Mint Associate Director Gloria Eskridge will join Governor Ted Kulongoski for a launch ceremony at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland.

The coin's reverse design features a stunning view of Crater Lake, the deepest lake in the United States, viewed from the south-southwest rim. The design incorporates Wizard Island, as well as Watchman and Hillman Peaks on the lake's rim and conifers. The coin bears the inscriptions "Crater Lake," "Oregon," "1859," "E Pluribus Unum" and "2005" on its reverse.

Following the ceremony, there will be a coin exchange that is expected to place more than 200,000 new Oregon quarters into circulation.

VIRTUAL TOUR II NEARS COMPLETION

Following the successful launch of last year's Virtual Tour, an online, multimedia presentation detailing the step-by-step circulating coin production process, the United States Mint is finishing up a sequel. The new tour, dubbed Virtual Tour II, will take viewers on a multimedia tour of the

numismatic production processes, focusing on the United States Mint's facilities in San Francisco, where most of the proof coin production takes place, and West Point, where the silver, gold and platinum American Eagle coins are manufactured. Set to debut in late July, the tour will be offered as both streaming video as well as a slide-show compilation of still photography with accompanying text.

MARINE CORPS 230th ANNIVERSARY SILVER DOLLAR TO BE RELEASED IN JULY 2005

Beginning July 20th, 2005, The United States Mint will offer the Marine Corps 230th

Anniversary Silver Dollar. Struck from brilliant 90% silver, this stunning coin features on its

obverse a rendition of Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal's historic photograph of the raising of an American flag by the United States Marines atop Mount Suribachi on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. Taken on February 23, 1945, it is believed to be the most reproduced image in the history of photography.

The coin's reverse features an engraving of the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, official emblem of the United States Marine Corps

which has remained virtually unchanged since 1868, when United States Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles approved the design. The coin will be available in proof

and uncirculated condition, and be part of two limited-edition, collector sets including a coin and stamp set and the American Legacy Collection.





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UNCIRCULATED SET DEBUTS WITH NEW SATIN FINISH

Sales of the 2005 United States Mint Uncirculated Coin Set began on May 31, 2005, and for the first time ever, the coins in this popular set features a satin finish. The release for this set is three weeks earlier



than in 2004, as part of the United States Mint's commitment to making many of its products available earlier in the year, at the request of its customers.

The United States Mint chose the new satin finish because it is handsome and provides consistency for United States Mint uncirculated products, including the Uncirculated Coin Set, Commemorative Coins and American Eagle Silver Bullion coins. The satin finish, which will be continued on uncirculated coin sets in the future, will also help collectors differentiate between Uncirculated Coins in the United States Mint Uncirculated Coin Sets and those coins in bags and rolls that have never circulated. The 22 coin set contains "P" and "D" versions of all 11 circulating coins issued for 2005, including the five new coins released in the 50 State Quarters Program and both the American Bison and Ocean in View nickels, this year's additions to the Westward Journey Nickel Series™.

AMERICAN LEGACY COLLECTION NEW FOR 2005

The United States Mint is ready to take the wraps off a new premium product. Containing proof versions of all regular issue United States Mint circulating coins, the new American Legacy Collection will also include a proof version of both the Chief Justice John Marshall and Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollars. By combining these two commemoratives with the 2005-dated circulating coins in proof condition, the American Legacy Collection is the most complete offering of United States Mint coins available, and is reminiscent of the United States Mint's Prestige Set, offered in years past.

UNITED STATES MINT H.I.P. POCKET CHANGE™ FEATURES OREGON QUARTER



As an ongoing part of the United States Mint's Education Initiative, several items featuring the newly released Oregon state quarter have recently been

added to the H.I.P. Pocket Change website, including a large black and white blow-up of the coin that kids can download and color as part of Oregon State Quarter Day in the Classroom. The site also features the following three new Lesson Plans specific to the Oregon quarter for grades K-6; Crater Creation (K-1), Let's Look at Legends (2-3), and Explosive Ideas! (4-6).



Lesson plans are also available for grades 7-12 and include such topics as developing a national identity, Roman culture and coins, the Industrial Revolution and global views on currency. These plans can be found at www.usmint.gov/kids and all are free to download and distribute.